

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

---

NEW SPECIES OF SPIDER CRABS FROM THE STRAITS  
OF FLORIDA AND CARIBBEAN SEA.<sup>1</sup>

BY MARY J. RATHBUN.

---

These species will be more fully described in a bulletin on American spider crabs in preparation. The two species of *Mithrax* belong to the group of *M. hispidus*<sup>2</sup> in which the carapace is broad-ovate and more or less lumpy and the marginal spines more or less complex, either with a secondary spine or accessory tubercles.

***Mithrax caribbaeus*, sp. nov.**

*Holotype*.—Adult male, Cat. No. 50363, United States National Museum. Collected in the harbor of St. Thomas, West Indies, from piles near the town, by C. R. Shoemaker, July 7, 1915, and given to the National Museum by the Carnegie Institution.

*Measurements*.—Male holotype, total length of carapace 66.3 mm., width without spines 71.3 mm., with spines 78.4 mm.

*Description*.—On the postero-lateral margin there is a tubercle which forms the outermost unit of a transverse row of three tubercles on the dorsum, this row being subparallel to another anterior row of three tubercles. Rostral sinus U-shaped, about as wide as each horn; horns longer and less truncate than in *M. hispidus*. Two stout spines on anterior margin of arm. Crenulation of prehensile edges of fingers persisting in the old.

***Mithrax tortugae*, sp. nov.**

*Holotype*.—Immature female, Cat. No. 50442, United States National Museum. Collected at the Tortugas, Florida, by W. H. Longley, 1917.

*Measurements*.—Female holotype, total length of carapace 19.7 mm., width without spines 22.1 mm., with spines 24.3 mm.

---

<sup>1</sup> Published by permission of the Smithsonian Institution.

<sup>2</sup> *Cancer hispidus* Herbst, Natur. Krabben u. Krebse, vol. 1, 1790, p. 245, pl. 18, fig. 100.

*Description.*—Carapace wider than in the allied species; no spine nor tubercle present on the postero-lateral margin; above the margin a row of two tubercles runs obliquely transversely backward from the spine at the lateral angle; first two antero-lateral lobes rectangular. Rostral sinus v-shaped, horns very wide. Two tubercles or blunt spines on anterior margin of arm.

***Microphrys antillensis*, sp. nov.**

*Holotype.*—Male, Cat. No. 43017, United States National Museum. Collected off Montego Bay Point, Jamaica, June 28, 1910, by Dr. E. A. Andrews for the Museum.

*Measurements.*—Male holotype, total length of carapace 14 mm., length of horns 2.4 mm., width of carapace without spines 10.5 mm., with spines 11.6 mm.

*Description.*—Two processes on the antero-lateral wall of the carapace, the hepatic process having an anterior, outward-projecting tooth and the branchial process not rimmed nor sharply defined. Two adjacent branchial spines (paired), one near the lateral angle, the other in almost a transverse line. No lobe on margin of basal antennal article behind the antero-external spine.

***Microphrys interruptus*, sp. nov.**

*Holotype.*—Male, Cat. No. 48753, United States National Museum. Collected at Ensenada de Cajon, off Cape San Antonio, Cuba, Station 11, May 22, 1914, by the *Tomas Barrera Expedition*, Henderson and Bartsch, naturalists.

*Measurements.*—Male holotype, total length of carapace 10.7 mm., length of horns 1.4 mm., width of carapace without spines 8.2 mm., with spines 8.4 mm.

*Description.*—The branchial region bears a high oblique elevation, divided in two, the anterior part elongate and bilobed at summit, the posterior part small and conical; in the same line is a stout, curved, sharp spine at the lateral angle of carapace; a conical tubercle in transverse line with the spine; a granulated, raised areole on either side of the cardiac region; a finely granulated, depressed areole at inner angle of branchial region. Cardiac and mesogastric regions nodulose; a transverse curve of 5 tubercles across the gastric region. An arch of 4 tubercles above the posterior margin; below it 2 smaller tubercles side by side. Carapace wider anteriorly than usual, orbits more tubular; preorbital tooth not produced.

Antero-lateral spine of basal article of antenna broad, flat, projecting obliquely outward; it is followed on the outer margin by a tuberculiform tooth; tubercle on ventral surface low, almost obsolete.